

## Minutes of the Annual Meeting of St. Bartholomew's Congregation – January 25, 2015

The meeting opened with by prayer by Reverend Steven Schmit at 11:40 am on 1/25/15.

Twenty-eight members of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church were present for the meeting.

**Motion** by Carol Porterfield-Milowski/Sally Montebello: That minutes from 2014 annual meeting be approved.  
**Motion carried.**

Carol P-M and Rev. Steve decided that Steve would conduct the meeting. He asked for conciseness in committee reports. (Please find details in written reports submitted by the various committees and compiled in a handout for the Annual Meeting. Highlights of the various verbal reports are given below.)

Priest's Report given by Rev. Steve: • Recognition (and applause) was given for Jeannie Gullette both for her work in scheduling people helping with services and for training of lay readers, etc. The fact that fewer persons are willing or able to serve has dictated changes in alter parties and acolytes' duties, lectoring & prayers of the people, sermon readers, etc. • Steve thanked the Memorials Committee for purchases of waxless candles and stands. • Thanks went out to Carol Johnson and Gretchen Hazard for their musical offerings. • Steve suggested ordering some new chasubles and priest's stoles as current ones don't necessarily fit, maybe at some future point with memorial funds. • Additional comments from Carol P-M (from discussions at Bishop's Committee): We should be looking further for supply clergy (for more "ordained power at the altar"), and hopefully developing sustained relationships with such persons. The names of potential supply clergy came up, and the Worship Committee & Bishop's Committee & Shared Ministry team will continue to look into this. Also: The Shared Ministry training process has been changed (simplified) of late in the diocese.

Junior Warden's Report given by Bob Montebello: • The "physical plant" is in pretty good shape at this time. Thanks go out to Art Gullette, Charlie Champlin, Tom Jessen, and Kent, Betsy, and Shanti Hering, too. • Talk of sprucing up bathrooms in the undercroft has been ongoing for many years. Bob asked for a committee to bring recommendations as to what is needed ... "I'm not an interior decorator." • Part of the parking lot is sinking – this will be a big job for a contractor at some point in the future. • Carol P-M thanked Bob for his hard work, very capably done, as Junior Warden; this to general acclamation.

Sunday School: Carol Carpenter and Carol P-M have served in this capacity for our group of six (or so) children. A call for further assistance with Sunday School teaching was made. NB: There has been a change to the format of Sunday School, with kids staying in church through the Eucharist and then going downstairs for 20-30 minutes.

Altar Guild: Carol C., Susan Hausman-Stember, and Jeannie G. are members of the guild. They hereby put out a call for more helpers with this ministry. (Aside – Carol C. is working on a history of St. Bartholomew's, with pictures and memorabilia, newsletters, committee reports, etc., put into scrapbooks. She will be happy to accept and use any such items that people bring to her attention.)

Diocesan Convention Report given by Julia Plum. She added that she had heard from Rev. Charlie Champlin this morning and brought greetings from him.

Northwest Mission Area and Elected Bodies: Our congregation needs a delegate for NWA to replace Rob Warmbo. Delegates attend quarterly meetings no further away than Detroit Lakes. St Bartholomew's delegates to the NMA are also our delegates to Diocesan Convention. An alternate delegate should also be designated. (These matters were attended to subsequently.) Julia P. gives thanks to us for allowing her to serve St. Bartholomew's on this elected body.

Bemidji Community Food Shelf Report given by Art Gulette • There was a decrease from \$50,000 to \$43,000 for the Food Shelf's budget from 2014 to 2015. More volunteers are needed as this service to the Bemidji area is utilized more and more. The annual meeting for the Food Shelf will be on February 12<sup>th</sup> at Bethel Lutheran Church. Bob thanked Art for his service and applause was given.

Bemidji Area Soup Kitchen Report given by Jeannie G. She thanked all our volunteers from St. Bartholomew's. She noted that some meals are brought to people – sent to people's homes. Applause.

Episcopal Church Women Report: Donna Weir-Ringhand is the ECW president, but the report was given by Bea Knodel, standing in for Donna. Bea drew our attention to the end of the report, to the "Thank You" to all who volunteer their hours/goods/time/treasure to this service. Jeanne rose and gave thanks to Bea, who has headed up ECW for many previous years. Acclamation following.

Outreach Report given by Deacon Don Conner: • Don pointed out portions of his report outlining the good work in outreach done by Betsy H. and by Donna W-R to the People's Church. Don would like us to spread our outreach to People's Church over to Cass Lake, at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, where similar outreach opportunities are growing. • At the conclusion of Don's report Rev. Steve pointed out that part of the deacon's role, from the earliest history of the church, is in outreach. Rev. Steve added that Don exemplifies this role and "has made such work part of his very fabric." These words were met with general acclamation.

Memorial Committee: Kathy Schmit gave an invitation for others to join this committee, which only meets three or four times a year, often after church services. The Memorials Account now has a balance over \$3000.

Treasurer's Report given by Carrie Jessen: • Carrie, Art G., Bob M., Rev. Steve, and Don C. comprise the finance committee. Things ended up very positive for St. Bartholomew's thanks to increased general giving at the end of the year together with a one-time gift toward year's end. **Motion** by Bob Montebello/Kathy Schmit: That the budget for 2015 be approved as submitted. **Motion carried.** Acclaim followed for Carrie and Kathy in appreciation of their good work. "It's always easier when you don't need a red pen." - Carrie.

Bob Montebello has one more year to go on the Bishop's Committee, Tom Jessen has one, Eric Lund has two, and Ray Waukazo has one. And Carol P-M is on the Bishop's Committee from the Shared Ministry team.

Julia Plum is a delegate to the next Diocesan Convention. A second delegate, plus an alternate, is needed. Carol C. volunteered as a delegate, and Kathy S. volunteers as an alternate. **Motion** by CPM/EL: To "move this ticket". **Motion carried.**

A prayer before adjournment was given by Reverend Steve.

**Motion** by Rev. Steve/Tom J.: To adjourn this meeting. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 1:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Eric Lund, Clerk.